

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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TWO MEXICAN CITIZENS SENTENCED FOR ROLE IN METH CONSPIRACY

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that two Mexican citizens who live in Kansas City, Mo., were sentenced in federal court today for their involvement in a methamphetamine conspiracy.

Armando Casildo, 29, and **Jose Casildo**, 32, who are brothers, were both sentenced by U.S. District Chief Judge Dean Whipple this morning to five years in federal prison without parole.

On Aug. 27, 2003, **Armando** pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine. By pleading guilty, he admitted that he conspired with his brother and codefendant **Gabriel Garcia**, 37, a Mexican citizen who lived in Kansas City, to distribute methamphetamine between April 1, 2003, and May 22, 2003.

On July 9, 2003, **Jose** also pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine. By pleading guilty, he admitted that he also conspired with his brother and **Garcia** to distribute methamphetamine during the same time period.

Garcia also has been convicted and sentenced for his role in the conspiracy. On Sept. 10, 2003, **Garcia**, too, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine between April 1, 2003, and May 22, 2003.

All three co-defendants were originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on June 11, 2003, in Kansas City.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael S. Oliver. It was investigated by the Kansas City Metropolitan Drug Task Force.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow